

## Lesson Plan Information

# Snippets 5 Minute Mini-Lesson

*'When you hear it, what do you see?'*

## Lesson Understandings (What will be learned? Why is it important?)

Snippets provide students an opportunity to practice visualizing. Snippets are short pieces of text (poem/riddle) that will elicit mental images from your students when they are read. When the students form pictures in their mind based on the words on the page, they are developing an important reading comprehension strategy.

## Instructional Plan

Choose a Snippet text from the collection available in this unit. A student copy (without the solution) is included.

Begin by reading the title. Ask the group if there are any mental pictures, images or ideas that come into their minds that might help them to predict what the riddle is about.

Read the first stanza out loud. Share any images you have formed in your own mind after reading. What were the key words from the text that got you to that picture? Continue reading and stopping at key moments to update your own mental images for the students as they change or are confirmed with each stanza. Model using the Visualizing Bookmark for this process.

Ask the students to also share the pictures that formed in their heads. Encourage them to use the Visualizing Thinking Stem statements (bookmark). Remind them that our images will vary because our background knowledge is different.

Reveal the answer to the riddle. How did your mental images help you to solve the riddle? What were the clues in the text?

## Resources/Materials

Snippets Riddles Collection (copies for each student)

*Visualizing* student bookmarks

# Visualizing



Creating pictures  
in your mind  
while you read.

I see...

I hear...

I smell....

I feel...

I taste...

I can imagine...

These words remind me of ...

The picture in my head ...

When I think about these  
words I am reminded of

\_\_\_\_\_ because ...

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## **Catch Me If You Can**

**When somebody hits me,  
a crowd always cheers.  
I don't understand it,  
but it brings me to tears.**

**It thrills people silly  
to throw me around  
and make me go bouncing  
across the hard ground.**

**What have I done  
to deserve this cruel fate?  
I've gone from just mad  
to completely irate!**

**I'm battered by bats  
just to make the crowd shout.  
I am sick of this game-  
it's not safe, I want out!**

**WHO AM I?**

**baseball**

## **Holding It Together**

**I hang out in a little hole in the wall.  
I'm sharp but I'm also blunt.  
And if you drive me home, I promise  
I'll stay there as long as you want.**

**Although you can easily move me around,  
It's my job to keep things in place.  
Lots of stuff would fall down if I didn't exist,  
but luckily, that's not the case.**

**There are plenty of things you can hang on me,  
like pictures and clocks and your coat.  
There are even more things your can build with me,  
like a house or a chair a boat.**

**Sometimes I get a pounding headache  
from you hammering away at me.  
But I don't get mad. If I did you would see -  
I'd be fighting you tooth and me.**

**WHAT AM I?**

**Nail**

**Presto Chango!**

**I'm a powerful stick,  
I'm a masterful thing.  
I go "poof" and a flower  
turns into a ring.**

**I go "zap" and a bunny's  
a small, yellow bird.  
I can change anything  
with just one magic word.**

**Being magic is grand  
and the crowd loves my work.  
They say "ooooh" and sigh "aaaaah"  
and the kids go beserk!**

**It's a wonderful gig  
and I'll never regret it,  
but that silly magician  
takes all of the credit!**

**WHAT AM I?**

**Magic wand**

## **Fitting In**

**I fit inside your door just right  
wherever you reside.  
But put me in your neighbor's door  
and you'll still be outside.**

**There's just one hole that I fit in  
made especially for me.  
There's just one door, one safe,  
one skate and one locked diary,**

**which makes me feel real special.  
like I am one of a kind.  
Of course, sometimes folks copy me  
in case I'm hard to find.**

**I share a ring with others  
of my type; I'm rarely single.  
But that's okay 'cause when we  
touch each other, then we jingle.**

**WHAT AM I?**

**Key**

## **Holding It Together**

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**WHAT AM I?**

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**WHO AM I?**

## **Presto Chango!**

**I'm a powerful stick,  
I'm a masterful thing.  
I go "poof" and a flower  
turns into a ring.**

**I go "zap" and a bunny's  
a small, yellow bird.  
I can change anything  
with just one magic word.**

**Being magic is grand  
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**WHAT AM I?**

### **Fitting In**

I fit inside your door just right  
wherever you reside.  
But put me in your neighbor's door  
and you'll still be outside.

There's just one hole that I fit in  
made especially for me.  
There's just one door, one safe,  
one skate and one locked diary,

which makes me feel real special.  
like I am one of a kind.  
Of course, sometimes folks copy me  
in case I'm hard to find.

I share a ring with others  
of my type; I'm rarely single.  
But that's okay 'cause when we  
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**WHAT AM I?**

## **The Cold Hard Facts**

Sometimes I'm very square  
and sometimes I'm very hard.  
But heat me up and soon  
I've melted like a tub of lard.

I look excellent in glasses,  
I look lovely in a tray.  
And with me inside your cooler  
you can picnic all darn day.

When kids fall down in football  
I make sure their wounds don't swell.  
And when someone has a bloody lip  
I comfort them as well.

You can eat me when I'm solid.  
You can drink me when I'm not.  
And although I suffer freezer burn,  
I'm not what you'd call hot.

**WHAT AM I?**

**An Ice Cube!**

## **The Cold Hard Facts**

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I'm not what you'd call hot.

**WHAT AM I?**

**An Ice Cube!**

### **Down For The Count**

**It's hard to get too close to me,  
'cause you'd have to break the rules.  
But you can knock me down real hard  
just like those other fools.**

**I'll spare you all the details,  
of how much it hurts to fall.  
I'll just say this; I hate that big old  
heavy, round black ball.**

**I have nine friends around me  
which is really a great feeling,  
until that mean ball rolls at us  
and sends us all a-reeling.**

**I consider myself a stand-up guy,  
which is why my life seems so unfair.  
But despite all my troubles, I still always laugh  
at those ugly shoes you have to wear!**

**WHAT AM I?**

**A Bowling Pin!**

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**WHAT AM I?**

**A Bowling Pin!**

### **Your Pace or Mine**

**I don't come out of my shell very often  
'cause it takes me 'bout half the day.  
And I'll never be thrilled about traveling  
until I find a faster way.**

**For me, crossing over a speed bump  
is like you trekking 'cross the state.  
And I never can keep an appointment,  
'cause I'm always 'bout three days late.**

**If you raced me against a turtle,  
I'd still have no fair chance of winning.  
He'd zoom right past the finish line  
but I'd still be back at the beginning.**

**It's a leisurely life, but it has its drawbacks.  
It's a jungle out there when you're slow.  
And if I could just run about 20 times faster,  
there'd be no more escargot.**

**WHAT AM I?**

**A Snail!**

### **Your Pace or Mine**

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**WHAT AM I?**

**A Snail!**

## **Fear of Frying**

The story of my life is sad,  
But I'll tell you, if you like.  
I was born dirt poor in the richest soil  
in a town called Spudsville Pike.

One day I got snatched away from my home  
and then thrown in the back of a truck.  
My eyes could see life on the road was not  
easy,  
so I smiled and wished myself luck.

I knew that I'd be a success in the world,  
no matter what trials lay ahead.  
I was told that the world would butter me up  
But boy, what a line I'd been fed!

I knew life had taken a turn for the worst  
when I first saw those golden arches.  
Now my hope for the future is fried just  
because I am  
one of your favorite starches!

**WHAT AM I?**

**A potato!**

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**WHAT AM I?**

**A potato!**

## **Power Hungry**

**Without me and my energy,  
your radio wouldn't play.  
Your flashlight would be useless,  
it could never light the way.**

**Many of your favorite toys  
would sit there like a rock.  
And you'd never know what time it is  
without me in your clock.**

**Your tape recorder wouldn't keep  
a word that you had said.  
Your parents car would never start  
(just like when I play dead.)**

**I don't usually like to gamble,  
but I would bet big money,  
that without me there would not have been  
an energizer bunny.**

**WHAT AM I?**

**A Battery!**

## **Power Hungry**

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your radio wouldn't play.  
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an energizer bunny.**

**WHAT AM I?**

**A Battery!**

## **Taste of the Good Life**

**My most admirable quality is  
I have fantastic taste.**

**That is, until some little kid,  
decides to dine on paste.**

**When I'm quiet people always ask  
if a cat's got ahold of me.  
But that's silly - most cat's have their own...  
they don't need two or three.**

**Selling seashells by the seashore  
often makes me rather twisted.  
But give me a pickled pepper  
and I simply can't resist it.**

**When I take a trip to the candy store  
life's at its very best.  
But when I go to the doctor,  
I always get depressed.**

**WHAT AM I?**

## **A Tongue!**

## **Taste of the Good Life**

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**WHAT AM I?**

## **A Tongue!**

## **It's a Dirty Job**

**I don't like to make sweeping statements,  
but dirt is the scum of the earth.  
I hate it! I hate it! I've hated all dirt  
since the moment of my fateful birth.**

**I try really hard to get rid of it all,  
from the crumbs to the sand to the litter.  
Whether inside or outside, I brush it away;  
and it makes my heart go patter-pitter.**

**But most of the time I just stand in the corner,  
very anxious to fight the good fight.  
If I had my way, all the dirt in this world  
would just 'poof', disappear overnight!**

**Of course, then I wouldn't have much to do.  
I'd be bored as a fellow can get.  
Unless some old, daredevil witch came along  
and used me as her personal jet!**

**WHAT AM I?**

**A Broom!**

## **It's a Dirty Job**

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**WHAT AM I?**

**A Broom!**

## **Your Lap Dog**

**You all just want to use me,  
then throw me away.  
I don't like being treated  
in such a cruel way.**

**You think that I'm worthy  
to sit on your lap,  
or up on your table  
like a regular chap,**

**but then all the sudden  
you wipe stuff on me  
and I'm dirty and crumpled  
and mad as can be.**

**But the biggest insult,  
the far worst of the issues  
is when you use me  
when you're out of real tissues.**

**WHAT AM I?**

**A Napkin!**

## **Your Lap Dog**

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**WHAT AM I?**

**A Napkin!**

## **It All Adds Up!**

People are always pushing my buttons  
which is actually quite a plus,  
because if I didn't have so much time to divide  
I'd probably make quite a fuss.

Everything adds up perfectly  
when I'm brought on the scene,  
especially if you're well aware  
what all my buttons mean.

Because not all buttons are equal, you know;  
The x is a sign of the times,  
the check's the square root of all my problems  
and the dot is the cent sign for dimes.

I can sit on your desk, or fit in your pocket,  
you can use me at home or at school.  
But the best thing about me is I'm always right  
even when in the hands of a fool.

**WHAT AM I?**

**A Calculator!**

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**WHAT AM I?**

**A Calculator!**

## **The Dating Scene**

**You can sit me on a desk  
or you can hang me on a wall.  
Sometimes I'm big and colorful,  
sometimes I'm plain and small.**

**People always want to change me.  
I get flipped and ripped a lot,  
just 'cause I keep such good track of  
appointments that they've got.**

**But though my days are numbered  
my future's not so bleak.  
Some things I can count on to never change,  
like my months and my days of the week.**

**My popularity has always been  
a subject of many debates  
Because no matter how good or bad I look,  
I always have hundreds of dates.**

**WHAT AM I?**

**A Calendar!**

## **The Dating Scene**

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**WHAT AM I?**

**A Calendar!**

## **Sitting Pretty**

**I am very important  
and I'm very excited!  
I'm in love with myself  
and I don't plan to hide it.**

**I've got beautiful legs  
and such lovely, strong arms.  
Nobody's behind  
is immune to my charms.**

**My soft, fluffy cushions  
are often admired  
and my curvy, sleek back  
is just right when you're tired.**

**I've been dripped on and spilled on  
and chewed by a mouse  
But I'll still always be  
the best seat in the house!**

**WHAT AM I?**

**A Chair!**

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**WHAT AM I?**

**A Chair!**

## **I've Been Set Up!**

I come in all shapes and sizes,  
including the smallest; a "pup".  
But unlike the pup that you keep as a pet,  
I will never get big or grow up.

Huge versions of me are called "big tops",  
when I'm housing bears, llamas and clowns.  
And when I'm a big top I feel like a big shot  
'cause I'm welcome in all the cool towns.

Most often I'm taken on camping trips  
that's my favorite thing to do.  
I love the outdoors, even though my whole  
purpose  
is to keep the outdoors from you.

I keep out the rain and the skunks and the  
bugs,  
while you sing a nice campfire song.  
Just keep me away from those mean grizzly  
bears -  
I'm strong but I'm not *that* strong.

**WHAT AM I? A Tent!**

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when I'm housing bears, llamas and clowns.  
And when I'm a big top I feel like a big shot  
'cause I'm welcome in all the cool towns.

Most often I'm taken on camping trips  
that's my favorite thing to do.  
I love the outdoors, even though my whole  
purpose  
is to keep the outdoors from you.

I keep out the rain and the skunks and the  
bugs,  
while you sing a nice campfire song.  
Just keep me away from those mean grizzly  
bears -  
I'm strong but I'm not *that* strong.

**WHAT AM I? A Tent!**

## **Feeling Tied Down!**

**When I was born, I was little and perfectly flat.  
Now I'm big, round and puffy;  
(or some might say fat.)**

**When I was born, I was free;  
Not a thing held me down.  
Now I'm bound to a string  
which is bound to a clown.**

**When I was born, I was sure  
that I'd float through the air.  
But that dream has deflated,  
and it's just not fair!**

**When I was born, I was brave.  
Nothing hurt me at first.  
Now I'm so scared of pins,  
I'm afraid I might burst!**

**WHAT AM I?  
A Balloon!**

## **Feeling Tied Down!**

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I'm afraid I might burst!**

**WHAT AM I?  
A Balloon!**

## On The Cutting Edge

People either push me around.  
or they spend the day trying to ride me.  
It's not that I'm wimpy, or spineless,  
I just tend to keep lots of stuff inside me.

Just pull my string and I'll grumble real loud  
while I gobble that green stuff outside.  
The entire street hears me, and little kids fears  
me,  
but the very worst blow to my pride

is that after you've used me, you lock me away  
in a dark, smelly, boring tool shed.  
And the rake next to me, he keeps looking at  
me  
like he wants me to choke and play dead.

I want out of here - I'm so happy when I  
get to stuff my big stomach with grass.  
'Course after I've eaten 'bout half of your lawn  
I tend to get filled up with gas!

WHAT AM I?

A Lawnmower!

## On The Cutting Edge

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WHAT AM I?

A Lawnmower!

## **Slot Machine**

**I'm sitting on your countertop,  
I'm watching you walk by.  
And I'm wondering if we don't deserve a toast,  
just you and I.**

**I've lived here since the day you  
took your vows as a new a bride.  
And whenever something new pops up  
you're right there by my side.**

**You appreciate my talents-  
not too dark and not too light.  
I do everything I can  
to make sure things come out just right.**

**My ego's not on *overheat*,  
I don't have a big head...  
But I must confess, I think I am  
the best thing since sliced bread**

**WHAT AM I? A Toaster!**

## **Slot Machine**

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**WHAT AM I? A Toaster!**

## **Making the Grade**

**Whenever a teacher announces,  
that I'll prob'ly be coming real soon,  
Kids scramble for books, study 'specially hard,  
Cuz they don't want to look like a goon.**

**Sometimes when a kid takes me home,  
I'm displayed proudly up on a shelf.  
But other kids don't give me credit at all,  
but I don't give out credit myself.**

**You have to earn what you get from me,  
I'm an honest reflection of you.  
Your teacher writes down some big letters all  
based  
on your work and the answers you knew.**

**So whether I'm covered with A's or with D's,  
and whether you've passed or you've failed,  
Just remember, not bringing me home doesn't  
work,  
because hey, I can always be mailed.**

**WHAT AM I?**

**A Report Card!**

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**WHAT AM I?**

**A Report Card!**